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## NEWS RELEASE

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### TRAFFIC ALERT

#### **DOWNTOWN LINKS, ST. MARY'S ROAD, I-10 TO CHURCH AVENUE ST. MARY'S ROAD/SIXTH STREET OPENING CHURCH AVENUE CLOSURE**

On Friday, June 7, at approximately 8 p.m., Borderland Construction Company, under contract with the City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT), will reopen St. Mary's Road/Sixth Street to through travel between Church and Granada Avenues, however, Church Avenue at Sixth Street will be closed. The following information applies:

- Church Avenue will be closed both northbound and southbound at Sixth Street through the end of June to complete underground sewer work
- One travel lane in each direction will be maintained along St. Mary's Road/Sixth Street between Church Avenue and the westbound I-10 frontage road.
- Access to Davis Elementary School will be maintained at all times.
- Granada Avenue will be open to all turning movements and through traffic.
- Pedestrian access at the intersection of Granada Avenue and St. Mary's Road/Sixth Street will be maintained
- Through traffic at the intersection of Main Avenue and Sixth Street will be prohibited.
- Access to The University of Arizona Service Annex Building will be maintained through the entrance on Main Avenue, north of Sixth Street and through the parking lot on the east side of the building off Sixth Street.
- Motorists are asked to avoid using local neighborhood streets as a detour.
- Landscaping and road work will begin on the north side of St. Mary's/Sixth Street and will continue for the duration of the summer
- Work hours for the contractor are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday with occasional weekend work.

This is the Second Phase of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)-funded Downtown Links Project.

The purpose of this project is to reconstruct and widen St. Mary's Road/Sixth Street from I-10 to Church Avenue. As a part of the reconstruction, pedestrian facilities will be upgraded with new concrete sidewalks and access ramps along with a new signalized pedestrian/bicycle crossing just east of Davis Street. Bicycle travel will be accommodated by new 6-foot bike lanes in both directions.

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The existing pavement will be replaced with new rubberized asphalt paving to provide a smoother, quieter, and safer ride. Drainage improvements consist of new storm drains and catch basins. This project also includes a new traffic signal at the intersection of St. Mary's Road/Sixth Street and Granada Avenue. Street lighting for driver safety and neighborhood security will be installed as well.

Lastly, the project will have landscaping elements that incorporate sustainable practices like water harvesting and the recycling of existing concrete. Public art will also be included in this project.

The project began in November 2012 and should be completed by January 2014. The project construction cost is approximately \$7.3 million.

The voter-approved, \$2.1 billion RTA plan will be implemented through 2026. Details about the full plan are available at [www.RTA mobility.com](http://www.RTA mobility.com). The RTA has a nine-member board with representatives from local, state and tribal governments. While funded through the RTA, the above projects will be managed by TDOT.

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